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2320
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ACTION
is assigned to
ARA

United States Senate

March 5, 1979

FROM: DOUGLAS S. HARDIN

RE: CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF JONESTOWN

RE: Douglas S. Hardin

Respectfully referred to:

Department of State
Congressional Relations
2201 C Street. N.W.
H/309
Washington, D.C. 20520

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

Charles H.C. Mathias, Jr.
U.S.S.

REPLY TO: Linda Weissinger
358 Russell Office Bldg.

Form #2

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Dickerson, Maryland, 20753
February 21, 1979

Hon: Charles Mathias, Senator
The Dirksen N.O.S.B.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sir:

I feel that the deaths of approximately nine hundred Americans , who met their deaths in the Jonestown, Guyana tradegy is so important as to merit the attention of a Congressional Investigation. It has caused a great vexation of the spirit of the American people and deep apprehension as to the cause of such a terrible debacle, of apparent self destruction. I believe this incident in our history has so many ramifications and so precedent setting that we must have an official version, of the facts, so we can put the thing behind us and if appropiate, bring to justice the guilty , if they are living. There is , without a doubt a scarcity of legal precedent to goon , and for our future couse of action, there must be some sort of ground rules, made to assist us to handle similar cases, that without a doubt will occur.

I know it is a sticky mess and I feel sure that Congress will be able to fashion very little glory or political milage, to be squeezed from it , but it is a job that must be done, and done quickly so we can put it behind us and not be plagued with bits and pieces omitting from it, for years to come. There must be an accounting to the people, for the money that has been, and yet to be expended in bringing the bodies home and their disposal etc. There are other basic and fundamental questions such as : What and how much control and authority does this Government have over citizens, living in a foreign contry and holding American Passports. What is the responsibility of This Government for the protection of its citizens who hold valided passports? I somehow feel, in generalthht , this Government has allowed American Citizens to be kicked around too much by other nations and peoples. The recent incident of Ambassador Dubs, and the Marsine in Iran, in my opinion requires sometough action, or have we as a nation, sunk so low that we have even lost our own self respect. While we have been so keen on protecting people of other lands we have disregarded the rights of Americans, whom this government is duty bound to protect, wherever they might be. Hoping that we may soon see some postive action, along this line, in the near furture , I am .

Respectfully yours,

Douglas S. Gardin